

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 EURE-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 /043 W

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O 281215Z SEP 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5799

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 5548

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, US

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESSEL AND AMBASSADOR
GREENWALD

SUBJ: NEW EC HEAD OF DELEGATION IN WASHINGTON

REF: EC BRUSSELS 5545

1. HANNAY, SOAMES CHEF DE CABINET, CALLED THIS MORNING TO APOLOGIZE FOR THE LEAK ON THE KRAG NOMINATION. HE SAID THAT SOAMES FELT TI NECESSARY TO RESPOND TO PRESS QUERIES TO CLARIFY PRESENT SITUATION AND HOPED IT WOULD NOT CAUSE US A Y DIFFICULTY. SPOKESMAN, ACCORDING TO HANNAY, WILL MAKE FOUR POINTS: COMMISSION DECIDED TO NOMINATE KRAG ON SEPTEMBER 26. PROCEDURES FOR INFORMING MEMBER STATES WERE COMPLETED SEPTEMBER 27. PROCEDURES FOR INFORMING THE UNITED STATES NOT YET COMPLETE. FORMAL NOMINATION WILL NOT BE MADE UNTIL PROCEDURES COMPLETE.

2. I SAID THAT AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED THE STATE-
MENT ACCURATELY REFLECTS THE PRESENT STATUS AND WE
HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE COMMISSION SPOKESMAN ANSWERING
QUESTIONS IN THIS WAY. IN FACT, IT IS HELPFUL FOR US
TO HAVE IT PUBLICLY KNOWN THAT THE PROCEDURES FOR
INFORMING THE MEMBER STATES ARE COMPLETE. (WHAT THIS
MEANS ACCORDING TO HANNAY IS THAT THE PERM REPS MET
A SECOND TIME YESTERDAY AND ALL RPT ALL HAD BEEN IN
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COMMUNICATION WITH THEIR CAPITALS AND NO OBJECTION WAS

RAISED.)

3. EC PRESS SPOKESMAN HAS NOW ANSWERED PRESS INQUIRIES ALONG LINES OF PARA. ONE. IN OUR VIEW, THIS RELIEVES TIME PRESSURE SOMEWHAT FOR OUR RESPONSE (REFTEL) ALTHOUGH SOAMES WOULD OBVIOUSLY APPRECIATE EARLY REPLY.

4. WE SUGGEST IF DEPARTMENT QUERIED ON STATUS, THAT UNLESS DEPARTMENT'S REPLY IS IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE, PRESS ANSWER BE GIVEN AS FOLLOWS: "ALTHOUGH NO FORMAL AGREEMENT REQUIRED, EC COMMISSION HAS, AS A COURTESY, INFORMED THE DEPARTMENT OF ITS INTENTION TO NAME JENS OTTO KRAIG AS HEAD OF THE EC COMMISSION DELEGATION IN WASHINGTON. THIS PROCEDURE IS THE SAME AS WAS FOLLOWED IN THE CASE OF THE PRESENT HEAD OF THE DELEGATION, AMBASSADOR MAZIO. THE DEPARTMENT WILL RESPOND TO THE COMMISSION IN THE NEAR FUTURE THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS."HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ECBRU05548
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS HARTMAN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973094/aaaaacqm.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: EC BRUSSELS 5545
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <05-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW EC HEAD OF DELEGATION IN WASHINGTON
TAGS: PFOR, US, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005